(b) Yes, Sir. In para 332(8) of the judgment referred to in part (a) above, the Apex Court has also observed that;

> "Stress has to on primary and secondary education so that proper foundation for higher education can be effectively laid".

(c) The summary of the judgment in W.P No. 265 of 2006 pronounced on 10.4.2008 and as read out in the court is as follows :

(i) The 93rd Amendment Act does not violate the basic structure in so far as it relates to aided educational institutions. As far as private unaided educational institution are concerned, 4 out of 5 Judges have left the question open while Justice Bhandari held that it was violative of the basic structure.

(ii) The 2006 Act is constitutionally valid subject to exclusion of 'Creamy Layer.'

(iii) The quantum of 27% reservation for OBCs is not illegal.

(iv) The CEI Act, 2006 is not illegal merely because time limit has not been prescribed for reservation.

(v) There should be a review of the lists of SEBCs every 5 years."

(d) A legislative proposal on Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education is under consideration of the Government.

IGCC technology for power Generation

*36. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL has entered into an agreement with the Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation, to set up a 125. MW power, plants using the Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) technology;

(b) if so, whether IGCC technology is more thermal efficient than conventional pulverized coal technology and is cost effective too; and

(c) if so, the comparative figures thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) technology has been internationally tried mostly with petroleum fuels and low ash coals; It has not been proven in commercial level size plants with high ash, low quality Indian coals. The efficiency of IGCC process is dependent on the coal quality and also other site conditions like ambient air and cooling water temperature and as such the efficiency under Indian conditions is expected to be lower than what has been achieved internationally.

Studies were conducted by NTPC Ltd., for setting up of an IGCC demonstration plant in India. According to these studies, overall cost of IGCC demonstration plant is substantially

higher than the cost of smaller size conventional pulverized coal fired plant. Approximate cost of 125 MW IGCC demonstration plant is about Rs. 8 crore per megawatt in comparison to around Rs.4.5 crore per megawatt for the pulverized coal fired plant.

As IGCC technology for Indian coals is yet to be developed for commercial level size plants comparative figures for efficiency will be known only after results are available from a suitably sized demonstration project. However, BHEL studies indicate that corresponding to an efficiency of about 37% on high heating value (HHV) of a pulverized coal power plant of comparable 125 MW capacity, the efficiency of 125 MW IGCC plant is expected to be more than 38% which may even go above 40% during commercial operational use.

Raising the retirement age of IIT teachers

†*37. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAM RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether IITs have raised the retirement age of teachers by three years, in order to maintain the required student-teacher ratio;

(b) if so, the effective date thereof; and

(c) if not, the new measures being adopted to meet the shortage of teachers?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAM RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Considering the acute shortage of teaching faculty in the Central Educational Institutions in higher and technical education under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, it was decided to increase the age of superannuation of all persons who were holding teaching positions on regular employment, against sanctioned posts in Central Educational Institutions as on 15.03.2007, from 62 years to 65 years.

(c) Does not arise.

Captive mines

*38. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether companies are given license for mining of iron-ore in captive mines;

(b) if so, the details of the companies which are given such licenses;

(c) whether proper assessment to ascertain the quantum of iron-ore deposits in these mines has been done;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government would take comprehensive measures to assess the quantum of deposits in such mines and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) States as owners of minerals grant mining leases for iron ore after obtaining prior approval of the Central Government. Details

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.